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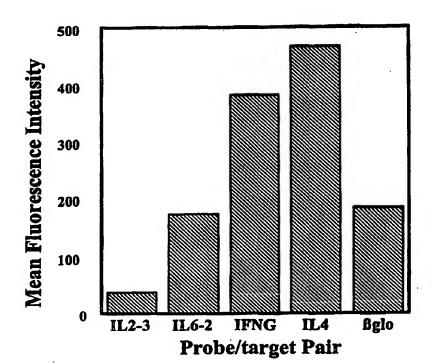
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(54) Title: FIBER OPTIC BIOSENSOR FOR SELECTIVELY DETECTING OLIGONUCLEOTIDE SPECIES IN A MIXED FLUID SAMPLE

(57) Abstract

The present invention provides biosensors, apparatus and methods for selectively detecting at least one complementary oligonucleotide target specie in a fluid sample containing a mixture different oligonucleotide One preferred fragments. embodiment of the biosensor is as a unitary fiber optic array having an in-situ hybridization zone comprising not less than one specie of single stranded oligonucleotide disposed as individual deposits in aligned organization upon multiple strand end faces at differing spatial positions on the distal array end surface. In this manner, a collective of deployed, single specie, multiple fixed probes are presented for selective in-situ hybridization on-demand with at least one mobile complementary target specie ultimately bearing a joined identifying label. The biosensor provides for optical detection of in-situ hybridization on the distal end surface via the



presence of the concomitantly disposed joined identifying label at the differing spatial positions.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int. .ional Application No PCT/US 98/09163

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 6 G01N21/77 G01N G01N21/64 C12Q1/68 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 6 GOIN Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. EP 0 723 146 A (SRI INTERNATIONAL) χ 1,4 24 July 1996 see page 31, line 9 - line 32 see figure 23 2,3,5-8US 5 244 636 A (WALT) 14 September 1993 2,3,5-8cited in the application see abstract see column 4, line 53 - column 5, line 9 see column 5, line 58 - column 7, line 9 see column 8, line 40 - line 43 see column 24, line 34 - line 56 see column 26, line 3 - line 35 see figures 17,18 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent tamily members are listed in annex. * Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of theinternational search Date of mailing of the international search report 28 October 1998 05/11/1998 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nt, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Thomas, R.M.

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